

Preliminary Amendment dated March 1, 2004

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the Specification by deleting the referenced paragraph and replacing it with the corresponding amended paragraph below.

Delete the paragraph on page 1 under the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS," and replace it with the following:

This is a continuation application of pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/083,282, filed February 26, 2002 and entitled "Method and Apparatus For Performing Rapid Isotopic Analysis Via Laser Spectroscopy," which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.